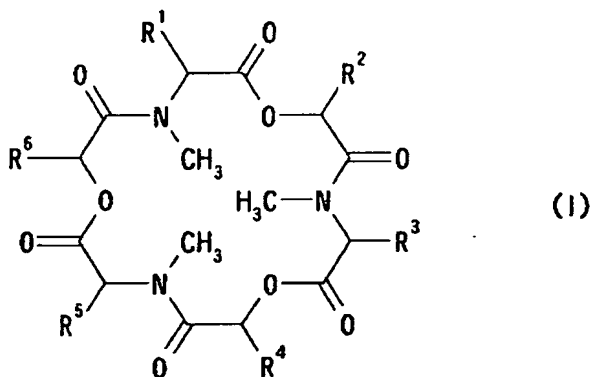


CLAIMS

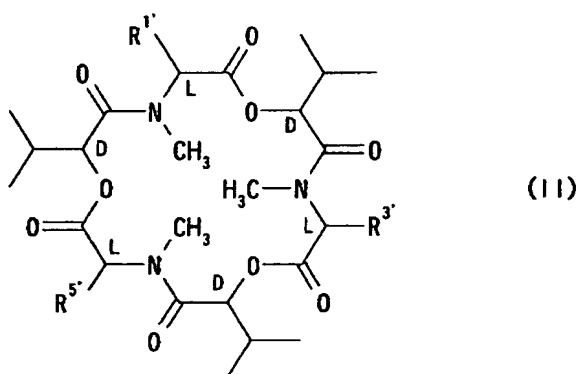
1. An ABC transporter inhibitor which comprises as an active ingredient a cyclic depsipeptide or its optical isomer or racemate of the formula (I):



wherein R^1 , R^3 and R^5 are each independently a group selected from linear or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms; hydroxyalkyl; alkanoyloxyalkyl; alkoxyalkyl; aryloxyalkyl; mercaptoalkyl; alkylthioalkyl; alkylsulfinylalkyl; alkylsulfonylalkyl; carboxyalkyl; alkoxy-carbonylalkyl; arylalkoxy-carbonylalkyl; carbamoylalkyl; aminoalkyl; alkylaminoalkyl; dialkylaminoalkyl; guanidinoalkyl; alkoxy-carbonylaminoalkyl; 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl (Fmoc) aminoalkyl; alkenyl; cycloalkyl; cycloalkylalkyl; and arylalkyl optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, or alkoxy, and R^2 , R^4 and R^6 are each independently a group selected from linear or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms; hydroxyalkyl; alkanoyloxyalkyl; alkoxyalkyl; aryloxyalkyl; alkylthioalkyl;

alkylsulfinylalkyl; alkylsulfonylalkyl; carboxyalkyl;
 alkoxy-carbonylalkyl; arylalkoxy-carbonylalkyl;
 carbamoylalkyl; aminoalkyl; alkylaminoalkyl;
 dialkylaminoalkyl; alkoxy-carbonylaminoalkyl; alkenyl;
 cycloalkyl; cycloalkylalkyl; and aryl or arylalkyl which are
 optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, or alkoxy.

2. The ABC transporter inhibitor according to claim 1,
 wherein the cyclic depsipeptide is a compound of the formula
 (II):



wherein $R^{1'}$, $R^{3'}$ and $R^{5'}$ are each independently linear or branched
 lower(C_{1-4})alkyl.

3. The ABC transporter inhibitor according to claim 2,
 wherein the groups represented by $R^{1'}$, $R^{3'}$ and $R^{5'}$ are linear or
 branched propyl or butyl.

4. The ABC transporter inhibitor according to claim 3,
 wherein $R^{1'}$ and $R^{3'}$ are each isopropyl, and $R^{5'}$ is any one of the

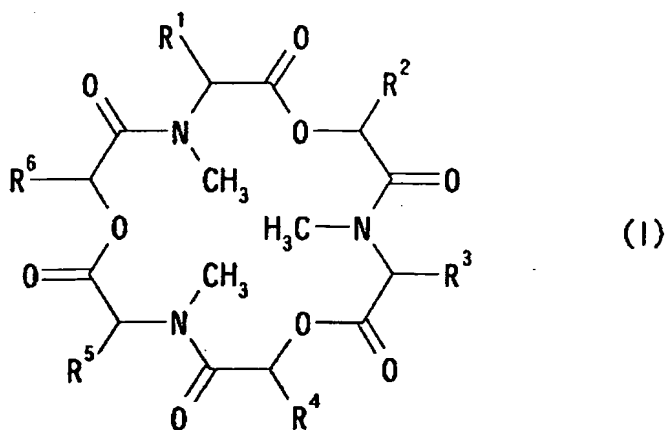
groups selected from isopropyl, sec-butyl, and isobutyl.

5. The ABC transporter inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the ABC transporter is MDR protein.

6. The ABC transporter inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the ABC transporter is CDR1 or CDR2 protein of *Candida* yeast.

7. The ABC transporter inhibitor according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the ABC transporter is PDR5 protein of *Saccharomyces* yeast.

8. An inhibitor against the acquisition of drug resistance, which comprises as an active ingredient a cyclic depsipeptide or its optical isomer or racemate of the formula (I):



wherein R^1 , R^3 and R^5 are each independently a group selected from linear or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms;

hydroxyalkyl; alkanoyloxyalkyl; alkoxyalkyl; aryloxyalkyl;
 mercaptoalkyl; alkylthioalkyl; alkylsulfinylalkyl;
 alkylsulfonylalkyl; carboxyalkyl; alkoxycarbonylalkyl;
 arylalkoxycarbonylalkyl; carbamoylalkyl; aminoalkyl;
 alkylaminoalkyl; dialkylaminoalkyl; guanidinoalkyl;
 alkoxycarbonylaminoalkyl;
 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl(Fmoc)aminoalkyl; alkenyl;
 cycloalkyl; cycloalkylalkyl; and arylalkyl optionally
 substituted with halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, or alkoxy, and R²,
 R⁴ and R⁶ are each independently a group selected from linear
 or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms; hydroxyalkyl;
 alkanoyloxyalkyl; alkoxyalkyl, aryloxyalkyl; alkylthioalkyl;
 alkylsulfinylalkyl; alkylsulfonylalkyl; carboxyalkyl;
 alkoxycarbonylalkyl; arylalkoxycarbonylalkyl;
 carbamoylalkyl; aminoalkyl; alkylaminoalkyl;
 dialkylaminoalkyl; alkoxycarbonylaminoalkyl; alkenyl;
 cycloalkyl; cycloalkylalkyl; and aryl or arylalkyl which are
 optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, or alkoxy.